



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

February 28, 2014

S. 741

North American Wetlands Conservation Extension Act of 2014

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on February 6, 2014*

SUMMARY

S. 741 would authorize the appropriation of \$55 million a year through 2019 for programs carried out under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) uses amounts appropriated under NAWCA primarily for grants to state, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, and other entities that carry out wetlands conservation projects.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$214 million over the 2014-2019 period and \$82 million after 2019. Enacting S. 741 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 741 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 741 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted in 2014 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year including supplemental amounts in 2014. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						2014-
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019

CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION

Estimated Authorization Level ^a	21	55	55	55	55	55	296
Estimated Outlays	5	19	33	47	55	55	214

a. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received appropriations totaling \$34 million in fiscal year 2014 to carry out activities under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. The authorization level shown here for 2014 is the difference between that appropriation and the amount that would be authorized by S. 741.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 741 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Enacting this legislation would benefit state, local, and tribal governments because, assuming such amounts are appropriated, they would receive a portion of the funds authorized.

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